

Arab-African meeting postponed

ABU DHABI, Jan. 8 (R)—A conference of Arab and African foreign ministers scheduled for next Monday in the Libyan capital Tripoli has been postponed until the end of March, the United Arab Emirates News Agency said today. The Arab League had told the UAE the postponement was due to African opposition to their attempts to exclude Egypt from a preparatory ministerial committee, the agency said. The committee of 24 African and Arab foreign ministers was to have met on Thursday, but it too has been called off. The move to exclude Egypt is in line with sanctions adopted at an Arab summit conference in Baghdad last April to punish Egypt for its signing of a peace treaty with Israel. In Kuwait, a foreign ministry spokesman told reporters that Kuwait, Syria and the UAE had boycotted the ministerial committee meeting in conformity with the Baghdad summit decisions. He said African insistence on Egyptian participation had led to the conference's postponement.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Afghan king: no intention to intervene

ROME, Jan. 8 (R)—The exiled king of Afghanistan, now living quietly in Rome, is sick and has no intention of intervening directly in events in his country, a senior member of his household said today. Gen. Abdul Wali said King Zahir Shah, deposed in 1973, had sent a message to the Afghan rebel groups who met in Peshawar, Pakistan, last week to decide strategy against Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. "His Majesty wishes all the different groups to concert their struggle and obtain a unity of purpose," the general said. "But he will not be issuing any more statements until the situation has clarified." The 65-year-old former king is suffering from bronchial trouble and a recurring eye infection that requires a major operation, he said. Gen. Wali 55 and the former commander of the Afghan army, declined to comment on speculation that he, rather than the ailing former king, might return to the region to lead the resistance against the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul.

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Dayan, Arab land owners rap Israel settlement policy

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 8 (Agencies)—The government settlement policy for the occupied West Bank came under attack in parliament and in the Supreme Court today as former Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Arab land owners challenged the gov-

ernment's plans for the Elon Moreh settlement. The Supreme Court ordered the government today to explain why the controversial Elon Moreh settlement should not be evacuated immediately. Arab landowners had yesterday

appealed to the court to order the Israeli settlers at Elon Moreh, near Nablus, to quit the area as required by the court in an earlier judgement. But the government allowed the settlers an extension of four weeks after handing back a portion of the land to its Arab owners.

The court has now given the government 10 days in which to state why the settlers should not be removed from the site as originally ordered.

Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir told reporters that the attorney-general will tell the court that the additional time period was essential to carry out the ruling but that the settlers will definitely be evacuated.

Mr. Dayan called for an urgent debate in the knesset of the cabinet decision to move the settlers to a nearby mountain site. The debate will be held next week.

Mr. Dayan quit his post last October, citing disagreement with the government's settlement policies. He supports Jewish settlement on state-owned land in the West Bank, but charges that the government acts in a piecemeal fashion, without plan or purpose.

His call for the urgent debate was supported by the opposition Labour Party and by member of the National Religious Party, a coalition partner which generally supports settlements.

In the Gaza Strip, demonstrators last night sacked and burnt restaurants in the Israeli-occupied town of Gaza during a protest against the dismissal of an Islamic religious leader from his job with a welfare organisation.

Military sources said the security forces broke up the demonstration by more than one thousand against the dismissal of the leader from the local Red Crescent Organisation (the Muslim equivalent of the Red Cross.)

The main target of the rioters was the Red Crescent office whose director, Dr. Haider Abdul Shafi, has a reputation as a communist.

He also disclosed that Egypt had prepared training camps for possible use by Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviet intervention in their country.

The wider regional aspects consumed the entire first day of the summit meeting yesterday. Today Mr. Begin and Mr. Sadat continued the review but spent half of their two hours of discussion on matters closer to home.

Officials declined to say whether the two leaders had found any way round the formidable differences between them on matters



This map locates the provinces in Afghanistan where Russian troops are reportedly meeting armed resistance from Afghan forces ten days after the Soviet-led coup against the Kabul government of executed President Hafizullah Amin. (AP wirephoto)

U.S. anti-Moscow reprisals Soviet diplomats expelled, Aeroflot flights cut down

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (R)—The United States today announced it was expelling 17 Soviet diplomats in New York and withdrawing seven U.S. diplomats from Kiev in retaliation for the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

The action followed President Carter's announcement last Friday of a series of U.S. reprisals.

State Department Spokesman Hodding Carter said the Soviet embassy was told yesterday that its diplomats must leave New York "expeditiously."

Earlier today the Civil Aviation Board (CAB) said it was cutting down flights by the Soviet airline

Aeroflot to the United States from three to two each week.

The action, which could affect Americans flying to Moscow for this summer's Olympic games, was made at the request of the state department and was a further response to the Soviet move into Afghanistan, CAB sources said.

Also the U.S. Coast Guard said it had stepped up surveillance of the United States' 200-mile territorial waters to ensure compliance with the president's order sharply cutting Soviet fishing privileges in U.S. waters.

The state department said the Soviet Union now had at least 65,000 troops in Afghanistan and elements of two Soviet divisions were close on the Soviet-Afghan border.

Spokesman Hodding Carter said the expulsion of Soviet diplomats and withdrawal of U.S. representatives carried through the president's announcement suspending plans for opening consulates-general.

In fact, some U.S. diplomats and their families have been stationed in Kiev since 1976, and the Soviet diplomats have been in New York for several years as well.

Closure of the Kiev mission sets back a policy aim of several U.S. administrations, but sacrifices had to be made to convince Moscow of western outrage, Mr. Carter said.

"The Soviet must be made to understand that they cannot act with impunity," he said.

Retaliatory actions taken since last Friday included blocking U.S. grain exports to the Soviet Union, suspending shipments of high technology goods and sharply curtailing Soviet fishing rights in U.S. waters.

In a televised speech last Friday, President Carter raised the possibility of a U.S. boycott of the Olympics if Moscow continued what he termed its aggressive actions.

Today support for a boycott was

voiced by Senator Carl Levin, a Michigan Democrat, who said in a television interview: "We've got to draw the line somewhere. We just simply can't tolerate the host country to the Olympics gobbling up a neighbour..."

Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's national security adviser, said earlier today that U.S. punitive measures against Moscow aimed to get the Soviet Union out of Afghanistan and prevent similar intervention elsewhere.

"It seems to us that international cooperation, indeed the American-Soviet relationship, would be furthered if the Soviet Union were to recognise that it made a very serious error... and if it were to withdraw."

"But if it doesn't, then we wish it to pay a price for it and we also wish to make certain that the other countries in the region are reassured," he said.

Mr. Brzezinski denied suggestions that the anti-Soviet measures would hurt Americans more than they would hurt the Soviet Union but conceded they would involve some sacrifice, "and the American people are prepared to undertake such a sacrifice."

He said the decision to stop shipment of 17 million tonnes of grain to the Soviet Union would mean a 20 per cent cut in Soviet meat consumption.

Mr. Brzezinski denied the United States was playing its "China Card" — using improved U.S.-Chinese relations as leverage against the Soviet Union. But he said the United States and China, whose Defence Secretary Harold Brown is now on a visit, shared certain overlapping strategic interests.

In a separate television interview, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland said the grain sales halt would mean losses of about \$300 million for grain merchandisers and other firms despite administration pledges to spend \$2.25 billion to buy contracts for embargoed shipments.

South Yemen supports Soviets in Afghanistan

KUWAIT, Jan. 8 (AP)—Pro-Soviet, Marxist South Yemen today became the first Arab state to support the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

A South Yemen foreign ministry statement, broadcast by the state-run Aden Radio, praised the Soviet stand and attacked the mounting international criticism against Moscow, the Kuwait News Agency reported.

The statement said the developments in Afghanistan were an internal affair and that the Soviet stand "has rid the progressive Afghanistan regime of the dangers facing it."

The Agency quoted unidentified observers as saying the South Yemen stand "will increase tension between Aden and Saudi Arabia, which has pledged to resist the Soviet intervention and to lead an Islamic campaign in support of the Muslim guerrillas opposed to the Marxist regime in Afghanistan."

In Beirut, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Executive Committee voiced support for the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

In the first official Palestinian comment on the Soviet drive, PLO information department chief Yasser Abed Rabbo, described the Soviet move as "a great help to all revolutionary forces opposed to an expanded American military presence in the Middle East."

Mr. Abed Rabbo is a member of the 15-man PLO Executive Committee (cabinet) and number two in the pro-Soviet Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has so far refrained from taking a stand on the Soviet intervention, which has drawn sharp condemnation from most Arab countries, including major PLO backers.

Regional Briefs

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 8 (R)—Some one million Israeli school children were sent home two hours early today as their teachers launched a campaign for higher pay. Leaders of the teachers' unions said they would order disruption of the school schedules all week and would call a full strike next Sunday unless their demands were met. Finance Minister Yigal Hurvitz, in an effort to prevent the moves, told the teachers that many of their wage demands were justified but that the government could not afford pay increases at present. Mr. Hurvitz has pushed through a number of measures to cut consumer and government spending in an attempt to halt the nation's galloping annual inflation rate of about 150 per cent.

DOHA, Jan. 8 (R)—Canada's minister of state for economic development and international trade, Mr. Horst Schmidt, today began talks here on expanding trade and economic relations with oil-rich Qatar. Mr. Schmidt, who arrived yesterday with a delegation, met the Qatari minister of economy and trade, Sheikh Nasser Bin Khalid Al Thani. Mr. Schmidt, on a four-day visit here, told the official Qatari News Agency his discussion with Qatari leaders would also cover possible cooperation in the oil industry.

DOHA, Jan. 8 (R)—Australia had agreed to supply Qatar 480,000 tons of wheat over 10 years, a monthly magazine reported today. Qatar and the Australian Wheat Board would sign the wheat agreement shortly, the new economic magazine Aswaq Al Khaleel (Gulf Markets) said in its first issue. The first annual consignment would be 38,000 tons rising to 61,000 tons in 1989, the Arabic-language magazine said. The report could not be officially confirmed.

BAHRAIN, Jan. 8 (R)—The United Arab Emirates today adjusted its currency upwards against the U.S. dollar by about one per cent, money market sources said. They said the UAE Currency Board told dealers that effective today the new rate was 3.73 dirhams a dollar against the previous rate of 3.76 dirhams. Qatar and Saudi Arabia earlier this week slightly raised their currency rates against the dollar.

TEHRAN, Jan. 8 (R)—The minister of national guidance, Mr. Nasser Minachi, says Iran has no intention of closing down western news agencies or generally expelling foreign journalists. He was quoted by the official Pirs News Agency as saying last night that Iran would only expel individual journalists accused of distorting news, and then only after formally warning them. He was speaking after a meeting of the ruling Revolutionary Council, at which the question apparently was raised. The ministry's director of foreign press, Mr. Abol Qasem Sadeq, said on Sunday that the authorities were studying proposals to ask all American, British and West German reporters to leave Iran. Mr. Sadeq said he would consult the nation before deciding on the expulsion proposal. But Mr. Minachi was quoted as saying: "Mr. Sadeq was just intending to solicit public opinion because many people here have raised protests."

ABU DHABI, Jan. 8 (R)—The Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development loaned Arab and developing countries 2.9 billion dirhams (about \$790 million) since its establishment nine years ago, the official Emirates News Agency said today. Quoting the fund's managing director, Mr. Nasser Al Nuwais, the agency said the United Arab Emirates' contribution totalled 131 million dirhams (about \$35 million). The fund was created by oil-rich Abu Dhabi, the capital state of the UAE.

TEHRAN, Jan. 8 (AP)—An officer of the deposed Shah's army was executed in the northeastern provincial capital of Mashad after a revolutionary court found him guilty of ordering his men to open fire on demonstrators during the 1978-79 events that toppled the Shah, the newspaper Kayhan reported today. The newspaper identified the executed man as Col. Moini. The court found that two persons died and 10 were injured because of his orders. Roughly 700 persons have been executed in Iran since the revolution last February. The vast majority were former members of the deposed Shah's government and armed services.

Sidetracked by Iran, Afghanistan Sadat-Begin summit extended

ASWAN, Egypt, Jan. 8 (R)—The Egyptian-Israeli summit talks have been extended after being heavily sidetracked by events in Iran and Afghanistan.

An Israeli spokesman said progress had been made during the talks today and yesterday at this southern Egyptian resort between President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. The extra session will be held on Thursday.

The spokesman declined to say whether the progress so far achieved related to the wider regional issues or to the Israeli-Egyptian differences over Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

While the two leaders were meeting at a luxury hotel on an island in the Upper Nile, Egyptian Defence Minister Kamel Hassan Ali told reporters that American and Egyptian air force planes had recently held joint exercises.

Gen. Ali said the joint exercises did not mean Egypt was providing the United States with a military base. "Egypt is not giving an air base to the U.S. and we don't intend to do so," the minister said.

He also disclosed that Egypt had prepared training camps for possible use by Afghan guerrillas fighting the Soviet intervention in their country.

The wider regional aspects consumed the entire first day of the summit meeting yesterday. Today Mr. Begin and Mr. Sadat continued the review but spent half of their two hours of discussion on matters closer to home.

Officials declined to say whether the two leaders had found any way round the formidable differences between them on matters

like autonomy, the status of Arab East Jerusalem, and on normalising relations between the two countries following last year's peace treaty.

The Israeli spokesman said that after the first 25 minutes of today's discussion, the two leaders decided they would not be able to wind up the talks today as they had planned.

Accordingly they decided to scrap the press conference which had been called for this afternoon and to hold a further session of talks on Thursday morning.

After the first part of today's meeting, Mr. Begin and Mr. Sadat abandoned the hotel room and went out to carry on talking

beneath a sunshade at the hotel poolside.

Newsmen in the hotel restaurant about 30 metres away were intrigued to see Mr. Sadat produce a map and lay it out on a nearby bathing platform. The two men left their sunshade to pore over the map, talking and gesturing earnestly.

The Israeli spokesman said it was a map of the area embracing Egypt, Israel and North-East Africa. He declined to say what the discussion was about.

The last session of talks on Thursday is expected to concentrate solely on Israeli-Egyptian problems, the Israeli spokesman said.



Egyptian President Anwar Sadat talks with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin during their two-hour meeting Tuesday afternoon, during which they discussed trouble spots in Africa and the Middle East. (AP wirephoto)

U.S. aircraft conduct exercises from Egyptian military facilities

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (Agencies)—U.S. aircraft have been conducting exercises from Egyptian bases as the Carter administration seeks military facilities in the Middle East, officials said today.

State department officials confirmed a statement by Egyptian Defence Minister Kamel Hassan Ali in Aswan disclosing the operations by American planes during the past few weeks.

They said more exercises might held. Washington has been studying an increased U.S. military presence in the region since the overthrow of the Shah of Iran last February, and particularly since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

"We're looking at the feasibility of using those bases along with others in the Middle East-Indian Ocean area," one official said.

He said the exercises, in cooperation with the Egyptian air force, were the first time the United States had tested any facilities being considered for temporary use in times of crisis in the region.

Pentagon officials said U.S. technical experts would be sent out probably late this month for a detailed study of other air and naval bases in Oman, Somalia and Kenya.

The bases in which U.S. officials are interested are the Soviet-built facility at Berbera in Somalia, the port of Mombasa in Kenya and the island of Masira off Oman.

In addition, the Carter administration is giving serious attention for the first time to using facilities in Egypt and Israel, which earlier had been ruled out as too sensitive politically.

Leaders of Egypt and Israel have offered their bases for American use in the crises in Iran and Afghanistan.

As Gen. Ali said today, however, "Egypt is not giving an air base to the U.S., and we don't intend to do so."

well. Because it has lost its bases in Iran, the United States would rely heavily on the Turkish scanning stations to monitor Soviet compliance with the SALT II strategic arms limitation treaty. That treaty, however, has been frozen by President Carter because of the Soviet military incursion into Afghanistan.

Tomorrow's foundation agreement, which will later have to be ratified by both governments, will be a renewable one-year treaty, which both sides agree should remain in force for two years, the diplomatic sources said.

It will include annexes on American support for Turkey's defence industry and on overall economic and military aid for Turkey.

In another development, British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington tomorrow begins a 10-day Asian and Middle East tour to discuss the Afghanistan crisis and pledge western military aid for neighbouring Pakistan.

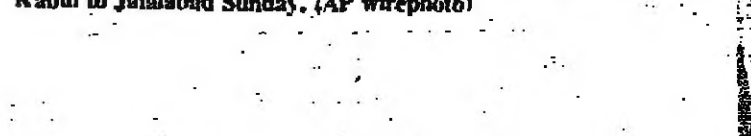
With Soviet forces now encamped near Pakistan's northwest frontier, Lord Carrington will discuss with President Zia Ul Haq what weapons he needs to protect his country, officials said.

The foreign secretary also hopes to have talks with the new Indian government of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, who swept back to power in last weekend's elections.

President Carter confirmed yesterday that the United States will join a consortium of countries in West Europe and the Middle East to provide Pakistan with arms.

Lord Carrington will first visit Turkey, a vital NATO partner, and then fly to Oman and Saudi Arabia, two of the gulf countries who feel most threatened by the Kremlin's move into Afghanistan.

In New Delhi, the foreign secretary wants to allay any fears that western arms supplies to Pakistan might pose a threat to India. The two countries have gone to war three times since 1947.



Russian troops stand along a small knoll alongside the main road from Kabul to Jalalabad Sunday. (AP wirephoto)

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AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — Engineers from five Arab states opened a three-day seminar here today organised by the federation of Arab engineers. President of the Jordanian Engineers Association Ibrahim Abu 'Alyash, who spoke during the opening session, said the participants will try to standardise the practice of engineering in the Arab World and organise and boost the technical engineering skills available in the Arab countries. The new system will provide for standard specifications for design, measurement and building materials and seek to upgrade engineering standards, guarantee equality of opportunity for Arab engineers and give them priority over non-Arab nationals. The new system was suggested by a special committee composed of representatives from the engineering associations in Jordan, Syria, Morocco, and Iraq. Delegates taking part in the seminar are from Jordan, Iraq, Tunisia, Sudan and Syria.

Labour ministry plans to tighten restrictions on foreign workers

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JT) — The Ministry of Labour is currently considering taking urgent measures to regulate the employment of foreign labourers in the country. Minister of Labour Omar Nabulsi was quoted by the local press as saying today.

Dr. Nabulsi told the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions during a meeting at the federation's headquarters yesterday that his ministry is reconsidering the activities of its employment offices which normally issue permits to foreign

labourers.

Employment of foreign labourers here will in the future be governed by strict and carefully planned regulations, and no labourers will be given work at random, the minister said.

The topic of migrant labour competing with Jordanian workers was raised by the secretary general of the federation at the meeting, which was also attended by the Under-Secretary of the Labour Ministry, Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar.

Dr. Nabulsi, added that his

ministry is going to step up inspection tours of factories to make sure that industrial safety regulations are being closely observed. The ministry will also keep a close watch on the observance of the labour law, he added.

He promised that several meetings will be held soon with representatives of the federation to get their views on amendments to the new labour law and then submit them to the ministerial committee which will formulate a final draft of the law. The federation is eager to have the new law passed without delay.

Islamic Congress appeals for halt to desecrations by Israel

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The Islamic Congress in Amman yesterday appealed to the United Nations, international Islamic organisations and Islamic governments to take firm steps to halt Israel's continuous violations of the holy places in the occupied Arab territories.

It said in a statement published today that the Zionist authorities have since 1967 continuously committed acts desecrating the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron and have encouraged soldiers to enter the mosque in an irreverent manner and, most recently, prohibited Muslims from performing religious rites at the mosque.

The Israelis have established the Kiryat Arba settlement over-

looking Hebron and have recently expropriated land around the city for further settlements, which

endanger the existence of the Arab inhabitants and the Ibrahim Mosque, the statement said.

PLO complains to WHO of Hebron health services

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JT) — The local office of the PLO has complained in a memo to the World Health Organisation (WHO) about the bad health conditions in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron, particularly at the Princess Alia hospital, a PLO official told the Jordan Times today.

Mr. Abdul Jawad Suleh, of the Amman PLO office and the man

in charge of a committee for the defence of human rights in the West Bank said in the memo to the U.N. organisation that the hospital lacks medical supplies and is incapable of offering proper services to the inhabitants.

The Israeli authorities deliberately neglect demands for improvement in medical services and provision of supplies as part of its plan to force Palestinians to abandon the city, the memo said.

It added that the Israelis have repeatedly refused requests for the purchase of an electric generator to supply electricity to the hospital, which suffers from constant power failures.

Israel's Arabs: To be or not to be

UMM AL FAHM, Israel's Arab minority, still seeking a national identity, is changing its image from timidity to militancy.

The defeated, frightened Palestinian refugee of 1948 has given way to a new generation which openly speaks against the Zionist state and seeks to reunite with brothers locked behind foreign borders during over three decades of occupation resistance.

After almost 32 years of living under Israeli rule, many among the 500,000 Palestinian Arabs in Israel now speak of a long struggle ahead. There is even talk in the coffee shops of armed uprising in the distant future.

For nearly 20 years the Palestinians were numbered by the 1948 war when the Zionist state was born and millions of Palestinian refugees were scattered around the Middle East. But the 1967 war shook the Arab minority here out of its horror.

Here in this Arab village of 20,000 in the heart of Israel, Mr. Mohammad Kiwan, a 38-year-old lawyer, said: "This struggle for liberation is a question of to be or not to be. For the Palestinian people, we know it will be a long struggle but the only thing we fear is its price."

Kiwan listed many reasons for the growing nationalistic movement among Palestinians. He said Israel was partly to blame because it failed to give them equal rights although they were granted citizenship after 1948.

"Whatever one might say about so-called equality, the Arabs have always been at the bottom of Israeli society and this lack of equality only bolstered our nationalistic feelings," he told Reuters.

The majority of the Palestinian intellectual elite in British-ruled Palestine fled during the 1948 war. Most of those who chose to stay belonged to the peasant class which was left without any significant leadership.

"My father's generation could hardly do anything against the Jewish state in his days and the Israelis did whatever they liked with the Arabs and their property," said Kiwan.

The leaders of the Zionist state took no chances in the early years of statehood. A tight military rule was in force in the Arab sector until 1963.

Trying to describe the intensity of Israeli military rule, Kiwan said: "Our brothers in the West Bank and Gaza think they have it hard with the Israelis now. They should have lived with us in those days to feel the real meaning of military rule."

Until the 1967 war Palestinians were almost totally cut off from the Arab world in general and Palestinian refugees abroad in particular. But the 12 years since the West Bank and Gaza, with their 1.2 million Palestinians, came under Israeli rule have changed many Palestinians' ways of thinking, ideology and aspirations.

The struggle 30 years ago against the mass expropriation of Arab land has ceased to be the ultimate objective. The majority of Palestinians now look for leadership to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The rise of the new intellectual class has also changed the Arab approach to politics.

In the 1950s and 1960s the government banned the establishment of nationalist Arab parties as it believed they could endanger the existence of the Jewish state.

Mr. Habib Qahwaji, now a member of the Palestine Executive Council in Damascus, left Israel before the 1967 war after his attempt to

establish an Arab party was foiled by the court.

Having no political representatives of their own, most of the Palestinians in Israel traditionally, associate with the Moscow-based Communist Party which for years has been the only group in parliament (Knesset) to support the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel.

But with a recent upsurge in Arab nationalism, new organisations have been established which, in Israeli eyes, make the Communists look like a flock of doves.

Kiwan is one of the leaders of the Abna' al Balad (sons of the village) movement centred in this village overlooking the Jezreel Valley. Although still numbering only several thousand youths, the movement appears to be gaining strength and has organised numerous anti-Israel demonstrations in recent years.

Abna' al Balad publicly supports official PLO policies calling for replacing the Zionist state with a socialist, secular country where Jews and Arabs would live together.

Although the overwhelming majority of Jews consider this insane, Kiwan believes it is the ultimate goal for Palestinians even if Israel agrees to the establishment of a separate Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza.

"The Jews have no more rights in this land than the Palestinians," he said. "Coming here, the Jews say they merely return to a land they lived in 2,000 years ago. Well, in that case, the Palestinians want to settle on land on which they resided only 30 years ago."

At the Abna' al Balad club here, four of the movement's members usher locals in to see an exhibition of paintings by town folk and Palestinians on the West Bank. The sole subject: Palestinians in their struggle.

Indicative of Palestinian resettlement over the limited autonomy Israel has proposed for the West Bank and Gaza is a painting by Suleiman Mansur of Ramallah. This shows a crucified Palestinian and three hawks symbolising Israel, Egypt and the United States standing on his head.

Jabriya Khaled, 18, joined the movement years ago despite fierce opposition from his parents. To him the future is relatively clear. "The Palestinian people, both here and abroad, will exploit every political avenue to find a solution to their problem. But if that fails, there will come a day when all of them would join in an armed revolution."

Members said they had been arrested by the police for anti-Israeli acts such as burning the Zionist state's blue-and-white flag on Israel foundation day last year and hoisting the Palestinian flag at the local high school.

Kaslan Mohazma, also 18, said the Israeli offered him special favours if he quit the organisation.

"They offer us all kinds of things in the hope that we shall leave the movement and join the Communists who now seem moderate compared to our movement."

The youngsters' involvement in politics is also a cause of friction with the older generation. Kaslan's mother Mas'ada said she fully agreed with her son's political views.

"But I resent the fact that he is among the few who face jail for these activities while the majority of the village, which supports him in their heart, just sits by."

REUTERS

Just the opposite

"Thank God Israel and Egypt are on the side of right, not wrong; justice not its opposite: freedom, not slavery..."

SO SPOKE Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin in Aswan on Monday after the first meeting of his current talks with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

The unanimity between Egypt and Israel on the question of Iran and Afghanistan is what gave rise to Mr. Begin's outburst. Yet Egypt and Israel are certainly not alone in the Middle East or further afield, in sharing serious apprehension about the course of events in the region.

It is perhaps inevitable that an external factor arising in the Middle East — external, that is, to the direct Arab-Israeli conflict over Palestine — should serve to drive Egypt and Israel tighter into each other's arms at a time when many prickly points of dispute still exist between them in the negotiations in which they are centrally engaged.

This Egyptian-Israeli alliance carries grave implications of its own for the Arab states, who fail to perceive anything in the Egyptian-Israeli agreements to date, or in the framework of negotiations still under way, which adequately addresses the central issue of conflict in the Middle East: if anything, a one-sided and incomplete "resolution" of this conflict has only left that central issue, the Palestinian issue in all its aspects, to fester away in potentially even greater neglect. A further worry is that the power which has nurtured Israel in its first 30 years of aggression and occupation against the Arabs is the same power which Egypt as well as Israel now embraces, again while the Palestinian question, to which Egypt was once committed with its blood and its honour, remains unattended.

Finally, we think Mr. Begin is desperately wrong in his assessment of where Egypt and Israel jointly stand with regard to various human moral virtues.

The Egyptian-Israeli treaty makes a travesty of the issue of right and wrong in the Middle East by rewarding the wrongdoer at the expense of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. It is interesting that Mr. Begin could not even find the word for the opposite of justice: we might suggest, say, injustice, inequality, oppression or victimisation for starters. If he doesn't know the word, perhaps he cannot recognise the thing itself, yet it is what 30 years of Zionism have perpetrated in Palestine: indeed inequality and racism are central facets of Zionism itself. As for freedom and slavery, ask any Palestinian in the West Bank, or any Arab within Israel itself, about that.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: The Aswan talks between Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Premier Menachem Begin will probably deal in the first place with the Arab reaction to the official exchange of ambassadors between the Egyptian and Israeli regimes on the 26th of next month.

This Arab reaction, on President Sadat's part the Aswan talks are an attempt to obtain "something" from Mr. Begin with regard to the autonomy issue, in order to lessen the Arab reaction he fears after the exchange of ambassadors.

The indications, so far, are that President Sadat's hope to achieve, anything from the negotiations, has begun evaporating quickly, even before the beginning of the talks: the Israeli occupation authorities having decided to obtain control of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company, and Mr. Begin having announced just before his departure that he will tell President Sadat that Jerusalem will remain the indivisible capital of Israel.

Thus, Mr. Sadat's chance to get the desired cover-up from Mr. Begin seems small so far. It is, however, possible that the two sides may fabricate elastic and vague statements at the press conference they will hold at the end of their negotiations. Even in this case, it is expected they will take up the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan as the main issue to attract attention, as it has become an alternative to the issues of Palestine and Jerusalem.

AL DUSTOUR: What concerns us about the conflict between Moscow and Washington is to save the countries of our area from becoming victims of the cold war, which is being led by Egypt and Israel in a clear attempt to impose the joint military domination of the Camp David countries on the Arab region for reasons which have become known to everybody.

This justifies the French reaction to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan — an example to be copied, as it emphasises the independence of France and the freedom of its will in taking a decision which corresponds with its interests, without being motivated by sentiments left over from the Second World War period and from the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe.

As for the Arabs, the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, which is completely unjustifiable and a violation of the U.N. charter, should not distract our attention from the Zionist occupation of Arab territories.

The fear is that the process of distinguishing between supporter of the Soviet action and supporters of the U.S. reaction will lead to dividing the Arab world again for the sake of secondary issues, which have nothing to do with the main problem — that is, to distinguish between the friends and the enemies of the Arab cause.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibition

The Goethe Institute, in cooperation with the Dept. of Culture and Arts, presents an exhibition of contemporary German graphic art from the art centres of Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Munich. The exhibition is on display during regular hours until Saturday, January 12.

Commencing 10-1-1980

LIQUIDATION SALE AT



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Shmeisani-near Omar Khayam Hotel-Tel 63821

Save 15% - 30% on Foodstuffs, Detergents, Household Appliances, Toys, Clothes, Cosmetics and Perfumes.

Working Hours: daily from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. without break

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The Higher Ministerial Committee for development reviewed the housing policy in Jordan during a meeting held today, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The revenues of the Income Tax Department last year amounted to JD 22,719,276, according to the department's director general, Mr. Saleh Khasawneh. He said 1978 figures were JD 18,799,683.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — A Chinese trade delegation is due here on Jan. 14 for a several-day visit to Jordan. The delegation's talks here with the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, the Ministry of Industry and Trade as well as representatives of the private sector will deal with increasing trade between China and Jordan.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — Credits totalling JD 3,196,172 were granted by the Agricultural Credit Corporation to some 1,629 Jordanian farmers in the past year, the corporation's deputy Director General, Mr. Ibrahim Abu Leil, said here today. He said since its establishment in 1960, the corporation has granted a total of JD 30 million to nearly 52,700 farmers for farm projects and the purchase of agricultural machinery.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The Industrial Development Bank has granted 47 loans during the past year, totalling JD 3,761,000. Out of these there were 41 industrial loans, amounting to JD 3,461,000 and six loans for tourism projects, amounting to JD 300,000, the director of the bank's investment department said here today. The total capital invested in these projects was JD 14,122,875, he added.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The mid-year session of the General Secondary Certificate Examinations (Tawjihi) is due to start on Jan. 14. A Ministry of Education source said that a total of 31,000 male and female students will be sitting for the week-long examinations at centres around the country.

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (JNA) — The ninth group of trainees at the Hotel Training Institute will graduate on Jan. 22, according to the Director General of the Tourism Department, Mr. Michael Hamameh. Those in the group of 39 graduates who excelled in their studies will be sent abroad for advanced training, while the rest will have priority for employment at local hotels, resthouses and tourist centres around the country. The department of tourism has drawn up a five-year plan for training hotel staff badly needed in Jordan, Mr. Hamameh said. The ninth group has completed a one-year course, of which six months were at the centre and the rest in practical work at classified hotels in Jordan.

DIPLOMATIC MISSION HAS A VACANT POSITION

FOR A FULL-TIME TRANSLATOR

Must have excellent knowledge of Arabic with ability to translate into fluent idiomatic English. University education, good working knowledge of current world affairs, and some typing ability also required. Must be willing to work unusual hours. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Suitable candidates will be asked to undergo tests.

For those interested, please send a C.V. to Personnel Office, P.O. Box 354, Amman, Jordan.

TO LET

FURNISHED HOUSE

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Please contact tel: 41663, after 4 p.m.

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White Star Building
 Abdali - opposite Army Headquarters

Excellent location. Each office has a private toilet. Parking available. Two elevators. Hot and cold running water. Pressurised water system. Heat-absorbing mirror reflecting glass. Intercom system installed. Telephone lines available. Extra electricity generator. Twelve-hour reception and cleaning service.

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TO RENT

New, two-bedroom, centrally heated flats, each with kitchen, big living / dining room and two bathrooms.

Conveniently located in Western Shmeisani behind the Al Ra'i/Jordan Times newspapers building and over-looking the University road.

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FURNISHED APARTMENT TO LET

Self-contained, furnished apartment, consisting of one bedroom, large sitting and dining room, large kitchen, central heating, in attractive area of Jabal Luweibdeh near Caravan Hotel (Abdali).

Telephone 62595 any time



JORDAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY CO. LTD., Prequalification of contractors For the construction of the Company's buildings in Aqaba

JORDAN FERTILIZER INDUSTRY CO. LTD., invites local and foreign contractors registered in Jordan, to apply for prequalification for the construction of the company's facilities located at its site in Aqaba. These facilities, which cover a total area of about 12,000 square metres, are as follows:

1. Administration Building
2. Laboratory
3. Canteen
4. Garage
5. Fuel station and vehicle repair shop
6. Work Shops
7. Stores
8. Infrastructure facilities including roads, parking areas, pathways, and utilities.

Prequalification forms could be obtained from the offices of:

ARABTECH CONSULTING ENGINEERS,
 P.O. Box 7323, Amman, Tel: 65297.

The closing date for submitting the completed forms to Arabtech shall be January 20, 1980.

هكذا من المال

Opening set for February

Interchange nearly finished

By Sara O'Neill
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Jan. 8 — Amman residents should be heartened to hear that the Shmeisani Interchange is finally in sight of the completion of having to make several kilometres long to the Shmeisani Interchange to another.

The Shmeisani Interchange, if finished in February, will have taken nearly two years to complete, three months over the deadline set for Nov. 14 — the opening was planned to coincide with the King's birthday. Floods caused by the season's heavy rains are largely to blame for the delay, although informed sources had observed some time before the storms came that contingencies had already slightly delayed completion.

Under the terms of the contract, the contractor may incur a fine of up to JD 2,000 daily for every day's delay the amount of the fine depending on the extent to which any delay could be blamed on the contractor. "Acts of God,"

unusually harsh weather conditions which have already caused a delay in the completion of the interchange, the weekend's icy cold winds brought with them a new hazard and hindrance; heavy snow.

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such as floods and delays caused by other parties, would of course exonerate the contractor, the additional cost being borne by the client, Amman Municipality.

Excavations started on the site in April 1978, three weeks after a JD 1.7 million contract was signed on March 25 between the municipality and a local contracting firm, the General Equipment Company. The terms of the contract stipulated that work should be completed by July 1979, but the finishing date was subsequently changed to November 1979 to allow the contractors time to finish part of the Wadi Saqra Road project, for which the General Equipment Company is also the contractor, at the same time as the interchange. When the contract for the Wadi Saqra Road was signed last August, it was agreed that the bridge on Hussein Ibn Ali Street, just below the Holiday Inn, should be finished along with the interchange so as not to block

access to Third Circle. The bridge, which is now complete, passes over one end of the Wadi Saqra Road and has the effect of leveling off the bottom of the dip in King Hussein Ibn Ali Street.

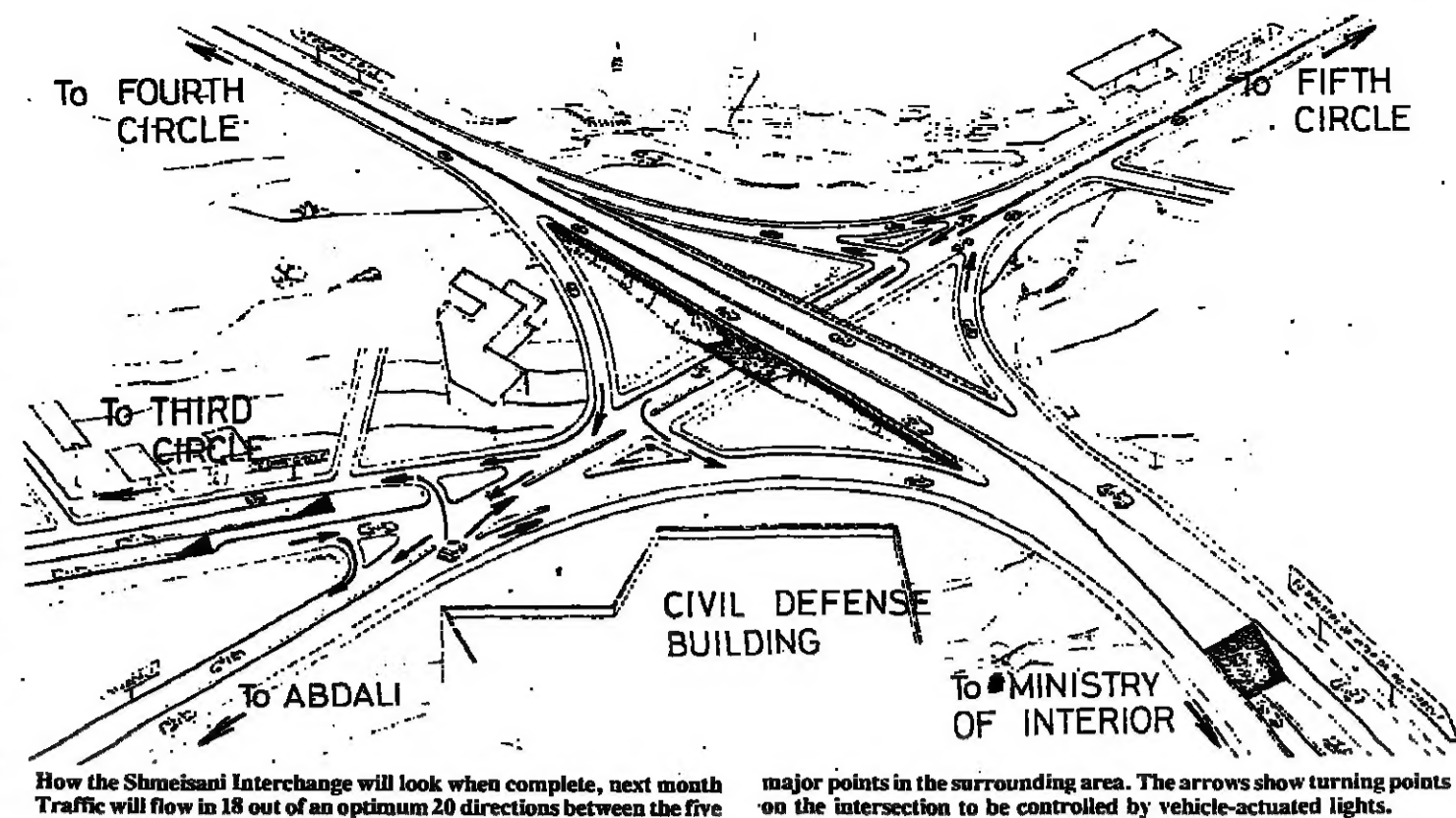
The Wadi Saqra Road, which will run over two kilometres in the valley between Jabal Amman and Shmeisani, is designed to carry the heavy flow of traffic coming into downtown Amman from the Sports City area away from Jabal Amman and, in particular, from the already heavily congested Third Circle.

The new road starts at the Wadi Saqra Circle, which links Shmeisani with Fifth Circle, and will join an existing road already bearing the same name which runs from just below the Holiday Inn to Prince Mohammad Street in the valley between Jabal Luweibdeh and Jabal Amman. The point where the new and old roads meet will pass under Hussein Ibn Ali Street. Only the bridge over this underpass was given the same deadline for completion, the rest of the project being scheduled for completion later this year.

General Equipment Company is the sole contractor for both projects, which have a total value of about JD 3.6 million. Another local engineering firm, Jouzy and Partners are also engaged on both the Shmeisani Interchange and Wadi Saqra Road as consultants.

The main construction work on the interchange was finished by the end of October, after the first of the season's storms but before the worst, which came at the end of November. A source at the municipality said this week that the contractors had, up to that point, "done a pretty good job of keeping to schedule", in spite of a few change in construction plans. The source cited as an example the fact that excavation of the tunnel, originally planned to be dynamited, had to be altered due to the close proximity of the civil defence building. A minimum amount of explosives could in fact be used, most of the excavating being done with slower mechanical means.

Thus by early November all that remained to be done were the finishing works such as paving of roads and sidewalks, the laying down of curbstones and instal-



How the Shmeisani Interchange will look when complete, next month. Traffic will flow in 18 out of an optimum 20 directions between the five

major points in the surrounding area. The arrows show turning points on the intersection to be controlled by vehicle-actuated lights.

lation of traffic lights, road signs and the like. The ensuing floods, which caused soil erosion, brought work on the paving to a standstill. This work could have been completed in a week or two, at most, the source at the municipality said. Almost nothing was achieved in the month of December and although January got off to a fine start, this weekend's snow bodes ill for the goal of finishing this month.

However, the rains had other, more indirect adverse effects on the contractor's being able to finish the work. The whole area on which the interchange is built is heavily congested with sewerage and water pipes, power cables and telephone lines, all of which converge on this central and strategically important area.

The various government agencies concerned with these services, such as the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority (AWSA), the Telecommunications Corporation and the Jordan Electricity Company, all had re-routing and expansion work to complete before paving could be done by the contractors. Heavy demand on these agencies to attend to more urgent matters, particularly repair work as a result of the floods, has meant delay. Even now some of this work has still to be done.

The Telecommunications Corporation has just finished re-directing 900 lines, and AWSA is in the process of repairing a 35-centimetre water and drainage pipe running from Jabal Amman to the Abdali area. The power lines have been finished by the Jordan Electricity Company.

One of the consultants explained how it had been planned from the outset of the Shmeisani project to not only improve traffic conditions in the area but also to improve and extend services to the rapidly expanding surrounding residential areas. This work was essential since the utilities in the area generally date back 20 years. In that time virtually the whole of Shmeisani has been built up.

Another hazard delaying completion is the continual pumping of water into the area from building sites outside the limits of the contractor's work. As one consultant said "even on sunny days the water comes down from such sites as the Arab Bank building site near the Haya Arts Centre. The Amman governor was trying to stop this but has presumably not succeeded so far." Such water should be pumped into tankers

and transported elsewhere.

Two of the owners of General Equipment Company, Mr. Na'im Tuma and Mr. Khalil Haddadin explained to this reporter how as a result of all these delaying factors beyond the company's control, it had "a very fair case for not being liable to pay any part of what would be a very large fine."

"We may have to go to court, but our case is very clear."

There is another mitigating factor, Mr. Tuma added. Two weeks ago additional work was agreed upon with the client. This involves a modification to surface drains in the interchange area, which will be the only part of the whole area to have a drainage system at all.

A total of 240 labourers have been working on the site (evenly divided between skilled and casual labour), in addition to four engineers, four surveyors and five foremen. In summer the work was done round the clock in two shifts, although this has not been possible in winter due to the cold.

The Shmeisani Interchange was designed by Jouzy and Partners with the aim of satisfying expected growth in demand created by rapidly increasing traffic over a period of 15 years (from 1977, when the design was submitted).

The interchange will accommodate two-way traffic flows between five major parts of the neighbourhood. Eighteen out of an optimum 20 traffic flows are achieved with traffic being able to move in any direction between Third Circle, Fourth Circle, Fifth Circle, Ministry of Interior and Abdali with two exceptions: traffic will not be able to turn left from Fourth Circle towards Fifth Circle

(existing routes already provide for this) nor will it be able to turn left from the Ministry of Interior in the direction of Abdali (the Salt road already carries traffic in this direction).

By far the heaviest anticipated flow of traffic will be between the Ministry of Interior roundabout and Third Circle. Traffic between these two points will pass through the tunnel, 280 metres long and four lanes wide (two lanes in each direction divided by a central wall). The minimum clearance of the tunnel is five metres which will provide ample room for buses and heavy lorries as well as lighter vehicles.

Traffic between the Ministry of Interior roundabout and Fourth Circle will cross over a three span bridge 45.5 metres long and four lanes wide. Although the bridge will be finished along with the rest of the interchange, the road will not be open until the street running from the interchange to Fourth Circle (called August II Street) is ready. August II Street is currently cut in two by the new Wadi Saqra Road. Work on the underpass has been delayed even more than the interchange by the bad weather, but it is hoped that the underpass and back fill will be finished by spring. The contractor explained that work, if interrupted by rain, would take about two months.

Traffic flowing between Fifth Circle and Abdali and Third Circle will pass under the bridge and over the tunnel.

Four one-lane ramps leading up from the ground to the level of the bridge make the interchange diamond shaped (see drawing).

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

| Name of Company | Par Value | Number Traded | High | Low | Closing Price |
|---|-----------|---------------|--------|--------|---------------|
| Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co. | JD 5,000 | 800 | 5,000 | 4,950 | 5,000 |
| Islamic Bank | JD 1,000 | 250 | 2,440 | 2,440 | 2,440 |
| Jordan Gulf Bank | JD 1,000 | 89,848 | 1,610 | 1,500 | 1,610 |
| Arab Investment Bank | JD 1,000 | 2800 | 1,250 | 1,250 | 1,250 |
| Jordan Kuwait Bank | JD 1,000 | 15,200 | 1,850 | 1,640 | 1,850 |
| Arab Bank Co. | JD 10,000 | 50 | 90,000 | 90,000 | 90,000 |
| General Insurance Co. | JD 1,000 | 5000 | 1,450 | 1,450 | 1,450 |
| Dar Al Dawa Development and Investment Co. | JD 1,000 | 600 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| Dar Al Sah'ab | JD 1,000 | 5600 | 1,140 | 1,060 | 1,140 |
| Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co. | JD 1,000 | 5650 | 2,600 | 2,570 | 2,580 |
| Arab International Hotels Co. | JD 1,000 | 4850 | 0,770 | 0,750 | 0,770 |
| Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co. | JD 5,000 | 23 | 24,000 | 24,000 | 24,000 |
| Arab Company for Aluminium Industries | JD 1,000 | 2300 | 1,420 | 1,400 | 1,400 |
| Jordan Electricity Co. | JD 1,000 | 300 | 1,440 | 1,440 | 1,440 |
| Jordan Worsteds Mills Co. | JD 1,000 | 100 | 2,700 | 2,700 | 2,700 |
| Jordan Cement Factories Co. | JD 10,000 | 435 | 19,800 | 19,700 | 19,700 |
| Jordan Ceramic Industries Co. | JD 1,000 | 550 | 1,160 | 1,150 | 1,160 |
| Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co. | JD 1,000 | 547 | 0,730 | 0,720 | 0,720 |
| Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Co. | JD 1,000 | 560 | 0,980 | 0,980 | 0,980 |
| Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. | JD 5,000 | 4154 | 9,250 | 9,050 | 9,200 |
| Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. | JD 1,000 | 6500 | 2,900 | 2,800 | 2,900 |
| Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co. | JD 1,000 | 3850 | 1,950 | 1,950 | 1,950 |
| Int. Construction and Investment Co. | JD 1,000 | 10000 | 0,950 | 0,940 | 0,950 |
| National Steel Industry | JD 10,000 | 250 | 15,000 | 15,000 | 15,000 |

Total Volume Traded on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1980: JD 291,875

Total number of shares traded: 153,217

Government Development Bonds

| Year of Maturity | Par Value | Number Traded | Volume Traded | High | Low |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|
| 1980 | JD 5,000 | 12 | 60 | 5,020 | 5,020 |
| 1986 | JD 5,000 | 12 | 60 | 5,030 | 5,030 |
| 1989 | JD 10,000 | 1013 | 10130 | 10,020 | 10,020 |

Total Volume Traded on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 1980: JD 10,250

Total number of bonds traded: 1,057

TODAY'S WEATHER

It will be partly cloudy with a slight cooling in temperatures and a chance of light showers in northern parts. The wind will be southeasterly becoming southwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, it will be fine with northerly moderate winds and calm seas.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

| | Overnight | Daytime |
|---------------|-----------|---------|
| low | 2 | 11 |
| high | 7 | 18 |
| Amman | 2 | 11 |
| Aqaba | 7 | 18 |
| Deserts | 2 | 14 |
| Jordan Valley | 12 | 18 |

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| U.S. dollar | 292.50/294.50 |
| U.K. sterling | 662.30/666.30 |
| West German mark | 171.70/172.20 |
| Swiss franc | 186.50/187.60 |
| Italian lire | |
| (for every 100) | 36.60/36.80 |
| French franc | 72.90/73.30 |
| Japanese yen | |
| (for every 100) | 126.40/127.20 |
| Dutch guilder | 154.90/155.80 |
| Belgium franc | 105.30/105.90 |
| Swedish crown | 70.90/71.30 |

Population census results in detail

AMMAN, Jan. 8 — On Jan. 1, the Minister of Trade and Industry, Ali Nsour, announced the preliminary results of the population census taken during November, 1979, the first one to be conducted in Jordan since 1961. Following is a detailed breakdown by village, city region of the kingdom's population.

Population of Jordan by governorate (As of Nov. 10, 1979)

| Governorate | Number of quarters | Number of families | Number of inhabitants | | Total |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | | | Males | Females | |
| Amman | 3,853 | 176,989 | 622,454 | 565,296 | 1,187,750 |
| Ajloun | 3,043 | 89,128 | 315,100 | 296,558 | 611,658 |
| Al-Balqa | 758 | 22,835 | 78,884 | 72,498 | 151,382 |
| Al-Jordan | 535 | 19,071 | 66,021 | 60,061 | 126,082 |
| Any time in | 295 | 12,225 | 42,518 | 32,883 | 75,401 |
| | 8,484 | 32,048 | 1,124,977 | 1,027,296 | 2,152,273 |

Population of Jordan by city, town and village (As on Nov. 10, 1979)

| City or village | Number of quarters | Number of families | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Amman | 1,435 | 99,200 | 340,008 | 308,579 | 648,587 |
| Al-Balqa | 753 | 31,151 | 112,935 | 102,752 | 215,687 |
| Al-Jordan | 303 | 16,087 | 57,947 | 55,007 | 112,954 |
| Al-Balqa | 143 | 6,868 | 25,786 | 23,846 | 49,632 |
| Al-Jordan | 179 | 6,667 | 22,982 | 22,709 | 45,691 |
| Al-Balqa | 140 | 8,433 | 17,000 | 15,866 | 32,866 |
| Al-Jordan | 127 | 3,989 | 14,814 | 13,695 | 28,509 |
| Al-Balqa | 143 | 3,808 | 13,999 | 13,293 | 27,292 |
| Al-Jordan | 96 | 4,678 | 16,364 | 10,622 | 26,986 |
| Al-Balqa | 286 | 3,994 | 12,849 | 11,648 | 24,497 |
| Al-Jordan | 114 | 3,055 | 12,684 | 11,545 | 24,229 |
| Al-Balqa | 67 | 3,482 | 11,780 | 9,662 | 21,442 |
| Al-Jordan | 68 | 3,016 | 11,022 | 10,377 | 21,399 |
| Al-Balqa | 38 | 1,927 | 6,462 | 6,033 | 12,495 |
| Al-Ain/Al-Sheikh | 44 | 1,729 | 6,461 | 5,591 | 12,052 |
| Al-Balqa | 50 | 1,582 | 6,336 | 5,572 | 11,908 |
| Al-Jordan | 48 | 1,899 | 6,066 | 5,739 | 11,805 |
| Al-Balqa | 30 | 1,740 | 6,021 | 5,287 | 11,308 |
| Al-Jordan | 74 | 1,454 | 5,279 | 4,826 | 10,105 |
| Al-Balqa | 45 | 1,520 | 4,752 | 4,839 | 9,591 |
| Al-Jordan | 24 | 1,276 | 4,718 | 4,404 | 9,122 |
| Al-Balqa | 45 | 1,426 | 4,354 | 4,438 | 8,792 |
| Al-Jordan | 34 | 1,353 | 4,405 | 4,076 | 8,481 |
| Al-Balqa | 25 | 1,146 | 4,349 | 4,055 | 8,404 |
| Al-Jordan | 42 | 1,228 | 4,109 | 3,748 | 7,857 |
| Al-Balqa | 58 | 1,233 | 4,000 | 3,721 | 7,721 |
| Al-Jordan | 28 | 1,083 | 3,822 | 3,741 | 7,563 |
| Al-Balqa | 25 | 1,110 | 3,691 | 3,738 | 7,429 |
| Al-Jordan | 32 | 997 | 3,560 | 3,345 | 6,905 |
| Al-Balqa | 27 | 843 | 3,523 | 3,148 | 6,671 |
| Al-Jordan | 26 | 862 | 3,240 | 2,975 | 6,215 |
| Al-Balqa | 24 | 814 | 3,146 | 2,962 | 6,108 |
| Al-Jordan | 20 | 787 | 3,142 | 2,900 | 6,042 |
| Al-Balqa | 30 | 791 | 3,102 | 2,848 | 5,950 |
| Al-Jordan | 18 | 902 | 2,945 | 2,580 | 5,525 |

Population growth of main urban centres (1961-79)

| Town | 1961 Population | 1979 Population | Rate of growth (per cent) |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Amman | 246,475 | 648,587 | 5.37 |
| Ajloun | 96,080 | 21,587 | 4.49 |
| Irbid | 44,685 | 112,864 | 5.15 |
| Salt | 16,176 | 32,866 | 3.94 |
| Karak | 7,422 | 11,805 | 2.58 |
| Ma'an | 6,643 | 11,308 | 2.95 |
| Aqaba | 8,908 | 26,986 | 6.15 |
| East Bank | 900,776 | 2,152,273 | 4.85 |

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

West Indies defeat Western Australia

PERTH, Australia, Jan. 8 (R)—The West Indies cricketers warmed up for their one-day international against England in Melbourne on Saturday with a thrilling four wickets win over Western Australia in a 50-overs-a-side game here today. Set a target of 224 the West Indies squeezed home with five balls to

spare. The victory avenged an eight wickets defeat the tourists suffered in their four-day match against Western Australia, which ended a day early yesterday. Derek Parry took the West Indies to victory with a cover drive which brought him two runs off the first ball of the final over bowled by Graeme Porter.

The 'Roaring Tiger' that crippled a yacht race

An inquest is now under way into yacht racing's biggest tragedy—the disastrous 1979 Fastnet race. But already officials have a picture of what happened on the August day when the cream of international racing yachts were hit by freak weather: a "low" which turned out to be a "roaring tiger" that savaged the entire fleet.

LONDON: The biggest inquest in the history of international yacht racing is now being completed to find out exactly what happened during a night and a day of storms which turned the 1979 Fastnet classic into the worst disaster the sport has ever suffered.

Fifteen yachtsmen were drowned and 23 yachts abandoned or sunk during the 600-mile race in August, run between the British and Irish coasts.

And although no general conclusions are being offered by the yachting authorities while the inquiry proceeds, the main reasons for the tragedy will likely be shown to be abnormal weather conditions and vic-

ious 40-foot vertical seas kicked against an under-water shoal.

Officials of the Royal Yachting Association and the sponsoring club, the Royal Ocean Racing Club, have spent weeks sifting questionnaires completed by surviving skippers and crews from the 302 yachts that started from Cowes, Isle of Wight.

Several facts have become accepted as beyond dispute. The size of the yachts involved does not appear to have been an important factor in the risk of accident or of being overwhelmed by the high seas and hurricane force winds. The yacht classes "three" and "four"

each lost more yachtsmen than the smallest class of all—class "five". And classes "three" and "five" each lost two yachts while class "four" lost one yacht.

Much criticism has been levelled at modern trends in yacht design on the basis that some of the boats racing (admittedly under the International Offshore Rule) were too flimsy for heavy weather conditions. In fact, the evidence now shows that the losses were not restricted to any particular type of yacht design. The five boats that were sunk varied widely in their sizes and types.

The yachting authorities have established that none of the stricken vessels were extreme designs with doubtful sea-keeping characteristics such as big open cockpits or ultra-light displacement.

Neither can the Royal Ocean Racing Club find a common thread of accidents which caused the 15 racing yachtsmen to lose their lives. Some were swept over-

board. Some were lost while taking to their liferafts. Some died while transferring to helicopters and rescue ships.

But a clear picture has emerged of the abnormal weather conditions which swept the area catching the entire fleet strung out between the English coast and the southern Irish coast where the Fastnet Rock—turning point in the race—lies.

An area of low pressure moved across the north Atlantic from west to east as the yachts were heading west out of the English Channel. Until it reached mid-Atlantic it looked to the weather men no different than dozens of other similar "lows" that had swept across during a period of poor weather unusual for August.

But suddenly the "low" deepened in intensity. Its central pressure which governed the force of its winds fell from 1004 millibars on

Navratilova wins tennis championship

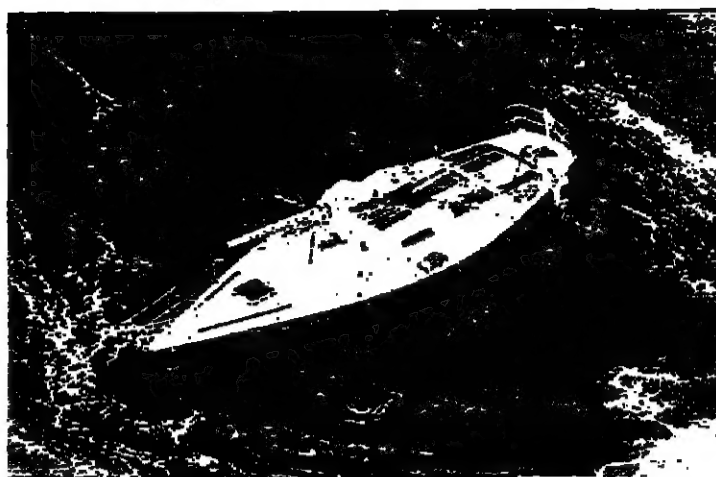
LANDOVER, Maryland, Jan. 8 (AP)—Inspired by a double dose of incentives Martina Navratilova was devastating. Losing only eight points in the final set, the powerful left-hander completed a 6-2, 6-1 romp over Tracy Austin to win the \$250,000 Women's Series Tennis Championship last night. Navratilova not only reaffirmed her no. 1 world ranking in a tournament which officially ended the 1979 tour, but also convincingly halted a four-match losing streak to Austin. "I don't know if I was ever more consistent and overpowering at the same time," said the Czechoslovakian native. "I felt like I could make any shot, and I almost could."

Austin, who twice downed Chris Evert Lloyd in the six-day event, summed up her defeat during the awards ceremony: "Martina played awfully well... Whew." Austin told the crowd of 9,000 in Capital Centre. "I've never seen her play this well." Navratilova not only established the tempo which allowed her to make good use of her serve-and-volley game. But she also turned tables on Austin and chased the little baseline performer all over the court.

The tournament boasted the eight leading players from the 1979 tour. Lloyd, seeded no. 1 off the point standings, took third place with a 6-1, 6-1 victory over fifth-seeded Australian Wendy Turnbull. Navratilova, the Wimbledon winner who topped the earnings list last year with \$691,198, was seeded second and Austin third. Although she already was ranked no. 1 in the world, Navratilova was wary that a defeat in the championship would jeopardise her standing. Navratilova earned \$75,000 for the singles championship and another \$15,000 for sharing the doubles title with Billie Jean King.

Australia edges out England

SYDNEY, Jan. 8 (R)—Australian captain Greg Chappell hit an unbeaten 98 here today to lead his side to a convincing six wickets win over England on the fourth day of the second cricket test. The win gave Australia a decisive 2-0 lead in the three-test series. They won the first test in Perth three weeks ago by 138 runs. Greg Chappell fittingly hit the winning run when he smashed a slow ball from Ian Botham over mid-wicket to the boundary, sending several thousands delighted spectators racing on to the field as the players ran for the safety of the pavilion.



Two hundred of the 400 boats taking part in the "Admiralty's Cup" race were surprised by a hurricane in the Irish Sea which caused some 30 deaths. Here the American yacht, "Ariadne" floats with its mast pulled out by the storm. (Gamma photo)

Sunday Aug. 12 to 982 millibars by midnight Monday Aug. 13 when it hit the racing fleet. "At first the official view was that the low was a dead duck. But it turned out to be a roaring tiger," commented one weatherman. Winds in the area rose to

more than 60 knots. The Labadie Banks shoal is 34 fathoms—half the depth of the surrounding sea area. The sudden storm kicked up vertical waves across the banks which knocked down boats, swamped others, and almost certainly caused the

capsize of a racing trimaran which was following the race. The crew of four died.

The racing authorities are almost certain to tighten up standards of yacht design acceptable in offshore events as a result of the tragedy.

Particular suspicion is being cast at the novel carbon-fibre rudders which many top yachtsmen had fitted because of their weight-saving. The rules governing the use of such exotic materials are likely to be much stricter in future. The lessons of the 1979 Fastnet will be long-remembered and will influence the future of offshore yacht racing.

But to capture the atmosphere of that terrible night one must turn to the personal accounts that are now starting to emerge in articles and books.

The first book to tell the story is Fastnet '79—The Story of Ailish III written by Len Gardner, yachtsman and

former secretary of the City of London Little Ship Club, and published by Godwin. Telling of the moment his boat was knocked down by the seas—the yachtsman's ultimate horror—he writes: "A long wave started to break somewhere ahead of us. It hit the side of the cabin with enormous force. Suddenly built as she is, Ailish could no longer stand up to such a punishing blow. She turned away into the waves and rolled into the sea."

"We were knocked down. As we went down my head went under. I felt warm sea water running into my nostrils. The mast was now in the water and the spreaders pointed beneath the surface. If we were going to lose our mast this was going to be the moment."

Ailish's mast stood the strain and boat and crew survived to tell the tale. Not all the Fastnet competitors were so fortunate.

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Indira regains old seat as party sweeps polls

NEW DELHI, Jan. 8 (Agencies) — Former Premier Indira Gandhi today avenged her defeat in the 1977 general election by recap-

The victory in Rae Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh state gave Mrs. Gandhi's triumphant Congress (I) Party its 300th seat in the lower house (Lok Sabha).

She won by 140,000 votes, according to unofficial results. The former premier, about to form a new Indian government, yesterday won another seat in Medak in southern Andhra Pradesh state by a massive 219,000 votes. She will have to vacate one of the two seats where a by-election will be held.

In a stunning reversal of the 1977 defeat that ousted her from office, Mrs. Gandhi's party has won 314 of 436 seats decided so far. Her allies, including a regional party in Southern India and the Indian Muslim League, won another 21.

Trailing in second place was caretaker Prime Minister Charan Singh's "Janata Secular" Party which won 37.

The Janata (peoples) party, led by unattractive leader Jagjivan Ram, elected 26.

Mr. Singh's coalition partner, the rump Congress party, won 10 seats. The Indian Communists and allies won 11 seats between them and minor parties and independents the remaining 110.

The public backlash against Janata was similar to the 1971 turn against Mrs. Gandhi for her 19 months of emergency rule.

The tremendous lead which she built up in electoral returns was seen as a reaction to weak and wavering leadership of her successors. Messrs. Desai and Singh, inflation, public disgust at feuding and a longing for stability fuelled support for the Indian stateswoman, who wooed voters with slogans of giving "a government that works".

In one of her first statements since victory became clear Mrs. Gandhi said today her country was against the Soviet military inter-

turing her parliamentary seat in northern India, and led her party to a sweeping victory at the polls, seemingly headed for a two thirds majority in the lower house of parliament.

vention in Afghanistan; but she criticised past American policy in the region.

Mrs. Gandhi said in an interview with the French radio station Europe-1 that the Soviet move "is a danger for us because we are against any interference from abroad. But at the same time it must be remembered that other countries have always sought to establish their presence and to further their interests in this region," said Mrs. Gandhi, fresh from her sweeping general election victory.

Asked if she was opposed to the Soviet intervention, she said: "Yes, we are against it."

NEW DELHI, Jan. 9 (R) — Party position in the Indian general elections for the 544-seat lower house (Lok Sabha) of parliament at midnight with 471 seats declared: Congress (I) — 329, Lok Dal — 39, Janata — 29, Congress (U) — 10, CPI-M — 19, CPI — 9, Others 36.

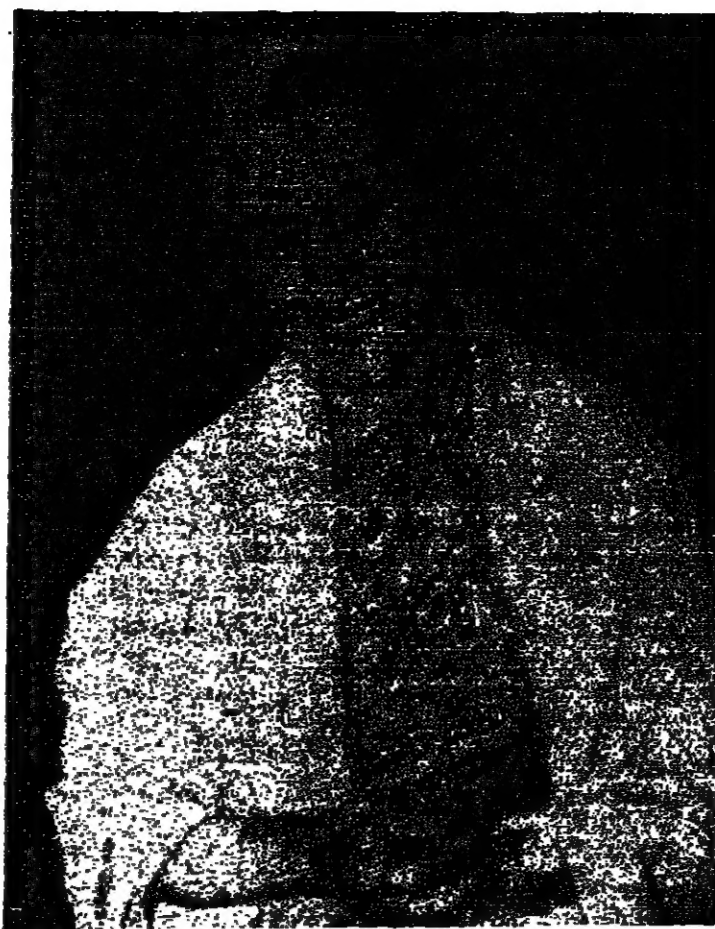
But she added that the Americans had acted in a comparable way in the past.

Asked if there was a possibility of dangerous "destabilisation" in the region, Mrs. Gandhi replied with a question: "Who created this destabilisation? It was the United States first of all."

Her interviewer asked whether she believed there was a danger of world war. Mrs. Gandhi said: "I do not know. That depends a great deal on America, and what it is going to do. If it pushes too far, then perhaps yes, there will be a war."

Was the Soviet Union responsible for the present tension in the region? "No, the responsibility is everybody's," the premier-designate said.

Asked if India, which has a friendship treaty with Moscow, belonged politically to the Soviet bloc, Mrs. Gandhi said: "No, we belong only to the Indian bloc." She said her government would continue India's traditional policy of non-alignment.



Mrs. Gandhi greeting cheering supporters soon after her election seemed assured

Shell kills 2 in Philippines

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines, Jan. 8 (AP) — A misdirected Philippine army mortar shell landed in a refugee centre, killing two Muslim evacuees and wound-

ing seven, the military reported today.

The report said the shell was fired Sunday, apparently from an outpost in Tipo-Tipo, in southwestern Basilan across the Basilan Strait from this southern port city.

It landed on a shelter housing about 100 people who fled fighting between government forces and Muslim-led insurgents in the area, the report said. Two persons died at the centre, and five of seven hospitalised in Zamboanga City last night were reported in serious condition.

Basilan, 800 kilometres south of Manila, has been a stronghold of the Moro National Liberation Front during its seven-year rebellion for Islamic rule in 13 southern provinces.

Fighting has continued through much of the South despite an ineffective three-year-old cease-fire, which generally broke down 10 months after it was signed.

Rome airport temporarily shut down due to mysterious fire

ROME, Jan. 8 (R) — Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport was closed for more than an hour last night when fire mysteriously broke out in a hangar, virtually destroying an Alitalia DC-9.

Firemen used trucks to batter the giant doors failed to open electronically. One fireman was slightly injured.

A spokesman for Italy's national airline said the wrecked plane was worth seven billion lire (\$8 million).

Patriotic Front protests alleged British violations

MAPUTO, Mozambique, Jan. 8 (AP) — Rhodesian nationalist guerrilla leaders Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo protested today alleged violations of the Rhodesian cease-fire by British authorities. Mr. Mugabe threatened to "dishonour" the truce if the alleged violations don't stop.

Mr. Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) headquarters in the Mozambican capital, distributed copies of a letter from the ZANU leader in London to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Mr. Mugabe's letter stopped short of actually renouncing the cease-fire. "We shall refrain from taking hasty action on this matter," he said, but it used strong language to protest what he called British "chicanery."

The letter's inference was that Mr. Mugabe might order his forces to leave cease-fire assembly camps inside Rhodesia and return to the bush to continue a seven-year-old guerrilla war that has cost more than 20,000 lives.

The guerrillas and the Salisbury regime of Prime Minister Abel Muzorewa signed the cease-fire accord at Lancaster House in London on Dec. 21, after 112 days of British-sponsored peace talks.

The cease-fire, which began 11 days ago, precedes fresh elections next month to give legal independence to the former rebel British colony. In the interim, with the acceptance of all sides, Britain has, again, become the colonial power in Rhodesia.

Mr. Mugabe, who with Zambia-based Joshua Nkomo of the Zimbabwe African People's Union, is co-leader of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance, referred to three specific complaints against the British.

— South African troops guarding the bridge transport link at Rhodesia's southern border with South Africa haven't been pulled out and, in fact, remain inside Rhodesia with the agreement of colonial Governor Lord Soames. "We cannot at all accept the presence of South African troops in our country as it is not only an act of aggression but also a violation of our agreement," Mr. Mugabe wrote.

— Maintenance of law and order during the interim is supposed to be the work of the Rhodesian police, while Rhodesian armed forces stay near their bases and guerrillas remain in assembly areas, he said. Mr. Mugabe described as a "flagrant violation" of the cease-fire accord a decision by Lord Soames to allow Rhodesian army soldiers to leave their bases to assist police in enforcing law and order.

— Mr. Mugabe also said Lord Soames was allowing irregular forces loyal to Mr. Muzorewa to

remain deployed, another alleged violation of the accord. These are groups of armed civilians, some ex-guerrillas, trained and armed to assist regular Rhodesian forces.

"In the light of the above observations," wrote Mr. Mugabe to Mrs. Thatcher, "I feel compelled to demand from your and other parties concerned that these violations of the Lancaster House agreement must cease immediately."

"If they continue, I shall regard my side and its forces as equally free to dishonour, in a similar way, the cease-fire agreement. We shall, however, refrain from taking hasty action on this matter. "Are we dealing with an honest government or not?" he asked the British leader. "Can we ever rely

on the word of your government?"

Where is the governor's sense of impartiality that Lord Carrington assured us we would get from Lord Soames?" Lord Carrington is the British foreign secretary.

Mr. Mugabe concluded his letter, saying that the alleged violations (pose a dangerous) threat to free and fair elections in Rhodesia.

At his Lusaka headquarters, Mr. Nkomo told reporters today the use of Rhodesian army forces to help police was a serious abrogation of the Lancaster House agreement. By using such forces, Mr. Nkomo said, Lord Soames is inviting an exchange of fire and I appeal for the removal of this confrontation."



British Governor Lord Soames with Australian members of the Commonwealth monitoring force (Gamma photo)

Gold price drops, dollar firms

LONDON, Jan. 8 (AP) — The price of gold fell on world bullion markets today as hurried dealers tried to agree on a stable price somewhere above \$600 an ounce. The dollar steadied on foreign exchanges. "Things are busy and erratic this morning," said one London gold dealer.

Gold opened in London at \$630 an ounce, after the metal closed in Hong Kong at \$631.58, down \$22 from Monday's \$653.61 finish in the Asian center.

The same pattern was in evidence at Zurich, Europe's largest bullion market, where gold opened at \$630 and fell swiftly to \$610 before bouncing back to \$618 mid-morning.

Dealers cited indecision by investors on whether to buy or sell as the effects of last week's frantic gold boom were assessed.

Gold hit its all-time peak of \$673.16 in Hong Kong on Monday after smashing through the 500-dollar barrier on world markets Dec. 21 in the wake of Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

President Carter's decision to cut grain sales to the Russians and the continued hostage crisis in Iran added more reasons for Arabs and other major investors to flee paper currencies for gold and other precious metals.

Silver, which hit a record \$40 an ounce on Jan. 2, traded at \$34.50 today in London, down 3 dollars from late Monday but still nearly

double its value a month ago.

The dollar was firmer but conditions were edgy. "Traders appear to have been taking very limited positions," one dealer said.

In Tokyo, a rumour that Soviet troops will pull out of Afghanistan helped the dollar recover after a sharp fall Monday and an early decline this morning. The dollar closed at 233.85 yen still fractionally below Monday's closing 233.90.

Extremist gp. threatens to kill Malay leaders

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan. 8 (R) — A Muslim extremist group calling itself the "Ayatollah Khornein of Malaysia" has threatened to kill Malaysian leaders, according to a leader of the youth wing of the ruling United Malays National Organisation (UMNO).

Mr. Mohammed Essa Osman, religious affairs chairman of UMNO youth in Penang state, told reporters the group had distributed a pamphlet in several northern states threatening the lives of the leaders and accusing them of being self-servers who encouraged moral decadence.

Mr. Essa called on the police to take action against the group before its activities got out of hand.

Communist S.E. Asian states call for non-aggression pacts

BANGKOK, Jan. 8 (Agencies) — The Communist Indo-Chinese governments of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos proposed today the signing of non-aggression treaties with the non-Communist countries of Southeast Asia.

A joint communique signed by the foreign ministers of the three nations and carried by the Vietnam News Agency, also offered to "discuss the establishment of a Southeast Asian region of peace, independence, freedom, neutrality, stability and prosperity."

Under the proposal, Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos would sign bilateral non-aggression treaties with the non-Communist members of ASEAN — Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore — and with Burma.

The three countries reiterated their wish to establish long-term friendship and cooperation with other countries in Southeast Asia on the principles of mutual respect of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and political systems," the communique said.

It said relations should be based on "non-use or threat to use force in their relations, non-interference in internal affairs and settlement of conflicts by negotiation."

The communique, issued at the end of a meeting that honoured the one-year anniversary of the Heng Samrin government in Kampuchea, said that despite pressures from the United States

and China, "nothing can change the situation in Cambodia (Kampuchea)."

It said "U.S. imperialism remains the principal enemy of humanity."

Meanwhile, Fighting flared again yesterday near the Thai border when two groups of Kampuchean anti-government guerrillas clashed north of the frontier town of Poipet, a Thai military spokesman said.

This was the third reported clash in border areas in the past five days, forcing tens of thousands of Kampucheans to abandon refugee camps and flee to Thailand.

A supreme communist spokesman said the clash took place yesterday morning between Khmer Rouge forces loyal to the ousted Kampuchean government of Pol Pot and non-Communist Khmer Serei (free khmer) guerrillas, but he gave no details of the fighting.

The Khmer Rouge and Khmer Serei are both fighting the Vietnamese-led forces of the Heng Samrin administration.

Last Friday's attack, for which Khmer Rouge leaders named the Khmer Rouge, caused more than 200,000 Kampucheans to flee a refugee camp opposite the Thai border village of Nong Samet. Several people were killed and about 80 wounded.

At least 10 people were reported killed in a neighbouring encampment Sunday in a second attack.

N. Ireland negotiations falter on first day

BELFAST, Jan. 8 (R) — Negotiations to bring Protestants and Catholics together in Northern Ireland faltered yesterday only hours after getting under way.

Britain set up the talks, the first peace initiative in its province for six years, with the aim of persuading the two communities to work together in local government.

But soon after they began at Stormont Castle, site of the old Protestant-dominated Parliament of Northern Ireland, an argument broke out.

The dispute was between the two key participants, Protestant Democratic Unionists led by the Reverend Ian Paisley and the mainly Catholic Social and Democratic Labour Party (SDLP) of John Hume.

They have differing views on how they should link up and today's conflict was over whether they should merely table their party policies or debate them straight away.

The talks are scheduled to

resume today and although prospects of success are rated dim, Mr. Paisley told reporters he was not pessimistic. "The stumbling block seemed to be minor differences on how we should proceed," he said.

3 policemen killed in Milan

MILAN, Jan. 8 (R) — Three policemen were shot dead in their patrol car early today in what appeared to be an urban guerrilla ambush, police said.

The victims were travelling in the centre of this northern Italian city when a car carrying three youths pulled alongside. The youths opened fire, then drove off, police said.

An anonymous telephone call said the killing was the work of the Red Brigades, the guerrillas who kidnapped and killed former premier Aldo Moro in 1970.



Secretary Harold Brown

retary Brown has advised Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping that the United States is now prepared to provide the People's Republic of China with a ground station capable of receiving information from a U.S. earth resources satellite known as Landsat-D.

He said that although the Landsat-D system was designed for civilian use, "the ground station involves very advanced technology in tape recorder and computers which could have military applications."

Mr. Ross said the Landsat-D

satellite provided information useful for agriculture, exploration for oil, gas and minerals and for other scientific purposes. Discussions on a Chinese request for the ground station had been underway since last January, he added.

During his meeting with Vice-Premier Deng, Mr. Brown said he believed his visit so far had proven to be productive. The New China News Agency (NCNA) stated.

The meeting was held in the Great Hall of the People on the third full day of Mr. Brown's week-long visit to China.

Mr. Deng was quoted as saying China and the United States "should do something in a down-to-earth way so as to defend world peace against Soviet hegemonism."

The vice-premier accused the Soviet Union of being "the main source of a turbulent international situation and a threat to peace and security," NCNA said.

He also said he hoped the United States would strengthen its unity with western Europe.

The two men discussed the Soviet military action in Afghanistan and its effect, the situation in Indochina, Sino-U.S. relations and other issues.

Where the Third World is first

The facts and figures in a new UNICEF report on "The Situation of Children in the Developing World" paint a grim picture. But, as UNICEF itself says, the statistics are not everything. Anuradha Vittachi, of the New Internationalist magazine, reports on some of the good things about childhood in the Third World which statistics cannot measure and which the industrialised world may have lost.

When Mother Teresa last visited Britain, those who flocked to listen to the "Saint of the Slums" were shocked to hear her say that the industrialised world has "a different kind of poverty, a poverty of loneliness, of being unwanted, a poverty of spirit."

At about the same time, five thousand miles away, Dr. Mostafa Kamal Tolba, Head of the U.N. Environment Programme in Nairobi, was making a statement about the International Year of the Child in which he said: "Overdevelopment has led to a rupture of human relationships. The pressure on time caused by earning money to buy what are perceived as needs but which are really wants converted into needs by advertising, means that a man cannot spend half an hour to check up on a friend who is sick. Eventually he cannot even spend half an hour to check up on a father or a sister or a son who needs him. I consider this inhuman."

"Fortunately these ties are still strong in the 'underdeveloped' world," he continued. "The children who are undernourished, who are not sheltered, who are not clothed, who cannot read, they at least have that single positive element of having been brought up in a society where human relationships are still viable, where human beings consider themselves as brothers and sisters, and where these ties still pull them together in times of need. My hope is that in the process of development, these values will not be lost as they have been almost lost in the industrialised nations today."

Meanwhile, Mr. Rafael Salas, Head of the U.N. Fund for Population Activities, was speaking on the same topic in New York. "The developed countries," he said, "have a lot to learn from the developing countries about values — and especially values about children. There is less human feeling among and for the children of the developed countries than in the developing countries."

Back in the United Kingdom, former prime minister James Callaghan recently made a speech in which he lamented the "loss of fraternity" which seems to come with increasing prosperity.

The idea that something has been lost, as well as gained, by the process of development and modernisation should not be allowed to sentimentalise the grim statistics about childhood in the Third World as set out in the new report on "The Situation of Children in the Developing World," recently released by UNICEF. But statistics, like newspapers, find it difficult to record what is good.

The "facts" about the positive aspects of childhood in the developing world are not to be found in government documents. But they can perhaps be glimpsed in the work of Third World writers who have recalled their own experiences of growing up: in Camara Laye's "The African Child"; in Sahlé Selassie's "The Alesata"; in Cheik Hamidou Kane's "The Ambiguous Adventure"; in George Lamming's "In the Castle of my Skin"; and in the

work of Carlos Fuentes and many other African, Asian and Latin American writers and autobiographers.

Perhaps the most obvious strand which runs through all these writings is the close and constant contact between children and their parents. The child in the rural areas is usually surrounded and supported not only by mother and father but often by grandparents, aunts, uncles and neighbours.

By contrast, figures recently released in the United States show

that there are now one million latch-key children who go home every day to an empty house, and that divorce rates have risen to a point where one child in every three born in the United States in 1970s will spend at least some part of his or her childhood in a single-parent family.

One factor which has put distance between adults and children in the industrialised world is the changing nature of work. It is not normal in most villages of the Third World for mother and father to go miles away each day to

do incomprehensibly abstract work in offices, shuffling papers to make money mysteriously bloom in banks (telling the child that he or she will understand "when you are older"). Instead, the child sees mother and father, relatives and neighbours, working nearby — and often shares in that work, growing into his or her strength grows.

A child growing up in such an environment learns and defines his or her role through real participation in the community's work: helping to dig or build, plant or water, tend to animals or look after babies, rather than through playing with water and sand in kindergarten, collecting for nature trays, building with construction toys, keeping pets or playing with dolls.

Another "fact" which seeps through such writings is that children who live in the villages of the developing world often grow up with a less oppressive sense of space and time than their brothers and sisters in the industrialised world. Set days and times are few and self-explanatory, dictated most often by the rhythm of the seasons and the different jobs they bring.

A child in the rich world, on the other hand, is presented with a wristwatch as one of the earliest symbols of growing up, so that he or she can worry along with their parents about being late for school-times, meal-times, bed-times, the times of TV shows....

Small children are not usually cooped up indoors, still less in high-rise apartments, and are not nagged about littering the "non-child" areas of the house with toys. Instead of fenced-off play areas and dangerous roads and "keep off the grass" signs and "Don't speak to strangers," there is often a sense of freedom to wander and play in safety. Other adults in the community can usually be counted upon to be caring and helpful, rather than indifferent or threatening.



Children of the Third World: rich in a different way?

In the childhood of all of the writers mentioned, contact with the environment was of a more direct and exhilarating kind than that experienced by most children in the industrialised world.

George Lamming and Sahlé Selassie describe how they and the children of their villages roamed freely in fields and woods, swam in rivers and seas, "slipping down wet muddy hillsides on bare buttocks" instead of down metal slides into concrete playgrounds and swimming in "the glory of the Caribbean sea which no swimming pool can match."

When Camara Laye returns to the village from the city, he tells how he would have longed to "rid myself of those city clothes... I had come to the country to run about, to play, to scale look-out posts, and to lose myself in the tall grass with the herds of cattle... and of course I could not do any of these things without spoiling my precious clothes."

Perhaps most crucial is the fact that childhood as described by such Third World autobiographers does not seem to be weighed down with worry and mental oppression, despite the physical hardships. One cannot encapsulate this diverse and elusive feeling. But perhaps Mr. Laye's description of a walk in the next village with his uncle comes closest to the spirit which pervades these recollections: "I would take me by the hand, and would walk beside him. He, out of consideration for my extreme youth, would take much small steps, so that instead of taking hours to reach Tindian it would often take at least four. But scarcely used to notice how I were on the road, for there were all kinds of wonderful things to entertain us on the way."

Does development and modernisation mean that this must be traded for the anxiety which one industrialised country alone now sees fourteen thousand attempted suicides every year, children under the age of fifty and one child in five under professional psychiatric care?